

## Convention Conduct



## Ira Domnitz



Ewing & Jones, PLLC  
Attorneys at Law  
6363 Woodway, Suite 1000  
Houston, Texas 77057  
Tel. 713-590-9650  
Fax. 713-590-9602  
Cell 713-922-3944  
[www.ewingjones.com](http://www.ewingjones.com)

Ewing & Jones, PLLC

### Education:

- Boston University School of Law, Juris Doctorate, May 2000
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, December 1995

### Admissions and Certifications:

- USPTO Certified Patent Attorney
- Texas Bar – 2002
- Massachusetts Bar – 2001
- United States District Court- Southern, Eastern and Northern Districts of Texas
- United States Court of Appeal – Federal Circuit

### Work experience:

- Stephens & Domnitz, PLLC
- Winstead, PC,
- Seyfarth Shaw, LLP
- Duane Morris LLP,
- The Matthews Firm
- Sheehy, Serpe & Ware PC

# Agenda

## Part One: Intellectual Property

- Patent
- Trademark

## Part Two: Conduct Law

- Harassment
- Conduct Towards Guests

## Part Three: Q&A Session

# WHAT IS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)

- PROPERTY THAT COMES FROM THE HUMAN INTELLECT, PRODUCT FROM THE HUMAN CREATION
  - SECURING AND ENFORCING LEGAL RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS, DESIGNS, AND ARTISTIC WORKS.

# WHY DOES IP MATTER TO US?

- POP CULTURE IS EVERYWHERE
  - INCLUDES, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: COMIC BOOK, SCIENCE FICTION, ANIME, GAMING,
- 19 OUT OF THE 20 HIGHEST GROSSING FILMS ARE SCI-FI FILMS
- 15 OUT OF THE 20 BEST-SELLING NOVELS ARE SCI-FI

## What is a Patent vs. trademark vs copyright?

My Mother used to say I am going to [add in wrong word] that picture. What is the right word?

In nonstatutory terms, here is the difference:

**Patents** protect new inventions, methods, compositions, and innovations.

Basically, the science stuff.

**Trademarks** act as identifiers of source of goods.

You know you are buying a certain product by the brand.

**Copyrights** protect works of art in a tangible medium.

Basically the artwork we see, hear and love.

## Can you have protection for a product in all three areas of IP?

Yes, you can.

- Take for example a videogame.
- It can use patentable microchip technology, have copyrightable art and visuals, and feature a branded character such as Mario or Zelda.

## General on the Tech Stuff -Patent -

- First to file
- Family style
- Continuing Legacy
- Do Not need working model
- No software (Alice)
- Design and Utility

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](https://utcle.org/elibrary)

Title search: Convention Conduct

Also available as part of the eCourse

[Comic Convention Conduct: Harassment, Copyright and Trademark Laws Still Apply](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
2018 Copyright and IP for Comic Conventions session  
"Convention Conduct"